

Heldenfels, Leane

From: Margie Gaudin <mgaudin@austin.isd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 6:15 AM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: Case C15-2014-0170; 32nd Street + Wabash; St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Mr. Jeff Jack

Chairman, Austin Board of Adjustment

January 24, 2015

Dear Mr. Jack,

I am writing to urge the Board of Adjustment's granting of the variance requested by St. Andrew's Episcopal School for a proposed enhancement of a kindergarten for our school, which has operated well and safely since 1957 in its present location on a campus adjacent to the lot with the variance request.

Our purchase of the Daughters of Charity Convent is central to our mission-specific aim to add kindergarten education, which is part of virtually every elementary school in Austin. Safely educating our students is essential to our mission, and I have no concerns regarding access of emergency vehicles to this new part of our school, especially since it is a continuation of our campus that has been operating safely for many decades. The many sidewalks and parkland also ensure the safety of any pedestrians in the area.

As you may know, we have the written support of our neighbors for our variance request as well, and we have worked with them every step of the way on the planning of this project.

In our Lower School, we have three sections of each grade 1-5 with 54 students per grade, while grade 6 has 68 students. 38 different zip codes are represented in our grades 1-6. We welcome students of all faiths, backgrounds, races, and beliefs. 20% of our students receive some sort of financial aid and approximately 23% of our families self-identify as racially or ethnically diverse. Over the years we have educated thousands of students, and our alumni are all living around Austin and changing it for the better. Our graduates and parents are employees at or serve on the boards of KIPP Austin, Breakthrough Austin, Explore Austin, and AISD.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Margie Gaudin

Board Chair, St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Heldenfels, Leane

From: Matt Sjoberg <~~mjsjoberg@jacksonsjoberg.com~~>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 8:32 AM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: Case C15-2014-0170; 32nd Street +Wabash; St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Ms. Heldenfels, I am writing to you and Mr. Jeff Jack to express my support for the variance from the 40 foot street width requirement on 32nd Street St. Andrew's Episcopal School has requested. All three of my children attended St. Andrew's from grades I through 12. At no time was I ever, nor am I now, concerned about any lack of emergency access to any part of the school. St. Andrew's enjoys close proximity to Lamar and virtually straight-line access to the emergency room at Seton Hospital. The granting of the three foot variance so St. Andrew's can proceed with the construction of its kindergarten will not impede traffic flow or emergency access to the school and I encourage the Board to grant the requested variance.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please feel free to contact me at the number below if you have any questions.

Regards.

Matt Sjoberg
Board Certified - Oil, Gas and Mineral Law (TBLS)
Jackson, Sjoberg, McCarthy & Townsend, L.L.P.
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Heldenfels, Leane

From: Heidi Cahill <~~hcahill@gmail.com~~>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: Case C15-2014-0170; 32nd Street +Wabash; St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Mr. Jeff Jack, Chairman
c/o Ms. Leane Heldenfels
Austin Board of Adjustment
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, TX 78767

Re: Case C15-2014-0170; 32nd Street +Wabash; St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Dear Mr. Jack,

I write in support of the Kindergarten addition to St. Andrew's Episcopal School. As a school that has operated in central Austin since 1952 providing a safe and secure learning environment for generations of Austin children, I cannot express what an educational enhancement this expansion will provide the community. With daily trips to and from the school for the past decade as a current parent, I do not have any concerns over safe access for Fire and EMS to and from the school. The safety and well-being of the students has always been a top priority for school leadership and the school would not be pursuing the variance if there were any questions over safety.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Heidi Cahill
St. Andrew's Parent

Heldenfels, Leane

From: Bo Townsend ~~bo.townsend@austinmep.org~~
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 9:52 AM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: Case C15-2014-0170

Dear Mr. Jack,

My wife and I are parents of two children who attended St. Andrew's Episcopal School. I am writing in support of the variance regarding a kindergarten on 32nd street and Wabash. The kindergarten would be an extension and enhancement of the school that has been there since 1955. We had no concerns regarding the safety of our children when they attended and do not believe the kindergarten would cause any additional issues for emergency access. The safety and well-being of our students is the number one priority of the school, and we believe the school would not be pursuing the variance if there were any question about safety.

I would respectfully request that the variance be approved as it will be an additional improvement to the area and to our community. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

The Reverend Bo Townsend

"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." Matthew 6:33
The Reverend Bo Townsend
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
8724 Travis Hills Drive
Austin, Texas 78735
512-288-0128

C15-2014-0170

Heldenfels, Leane

From: Wilson, Samuel M ~~Wilson, Samuel M~~
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2015 5:46 PM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: St. Andrew's request for Board of Adjustment

Mr. Jeff Jack, Chairman
Austin Board of Adjustment

Dear Mr. Jack,

I would like to endorse St. Andrews's School's request for a variance on the width of 32nd St. (Case C15-2014-0170). As a parent at the school for 17 years, and now as a member of the Board of Trustees, I know that the safety and well-being of the students is the school's first priority. We feel this use of 32nd St. for Kindergarten drop-off will be much safer, and will reduce overall traffic congestion for the neighborhood. As you have probably heard, the neighborhood also supports the request for this variance, knowing it will take traffic off of 31st St. Apart from St. Andrew's and Bailey Park, 32nd St. has very low traffic volumes and we believe it can serve this small increase in traffic easily.

Thank you and the Board of Adjustment for your consideration of this request,
Sincerely,

Samuel Wilson
512-497-9990

Heldenfels, Leane

From: Anne Smalling ~~asmalling@st-andrews.org~~
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 9:50 AM
To: Heldenfels, Leane
Subject: Letter of Support - C15-2014-0170; 32nd Street + Wabash; St. Andrew's Episcopal School

Mr. Jeff Jack
Chairman
Austin Board of Adjustment

Dear Mr. Jack -

I write this letter in support of the variance sought by St. Andrew's Episcopal School (C15-2014-0170). My children have been students at St. Andrew's for the past 12 years and I have never feared for their safety. The addition of a kindergarden will add significantly to the school's mission, enhancing the educational impact for many children for generations to come.

I drive to and from the campus on a daily basis and have never been concerned about safe access - for me or for emergency services. Parking signs are observed religiously and access to the property has never been an issue in my experience. Additionally, the safety and well-being of our children is a critical priority for the school and its staff. St. Andrew's would not be asking for the variance if there were any issues or concerns about the safety of its students. Access to the property has been studied with the safety of the children foremost in the planner's minds.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter

Anne Smalling
512.656.4783